

Message Text

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70

ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 CG-00 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 RSR-01 /126 W

----- 110622

R 041445 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3520

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USOECD PARIS 432

USEC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

COMICEDEFOR

NISRA/ KEFLAVIK

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E. O. 11652: NA/ A

TAGS: PBOR IC UK GW

SUBJECT: FISHERIES DISPUTE: DISCUSSIONS WITH WEST GERMANS

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: CURRENT TALKS BETWEEN GOI AND FRG REGARDING FISHERIES DISPUTE APPEAR TO BE MAINLY AN EX-CHANGE OF VIEWS AND UNLIKELY TO RESULT IN SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS. END SUMMARY.

2. NEW ROUND OF TALKS BETWEEN GOI AND FRG BEGAN IN REYKJAVIK APRIL 3. DISCUSSIONS WERE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AT 1100 HOURS BUT AT THAT HOUR GOI REPRESENTATIVES WERE INFORMED THAT TWENTY TWO FRG TRAWLERS WERE PRESENT IN A SMALL ZONE

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OFF SOUTH WEST ICLELAND WHERE ALL FISHING IS BANNED DURING PERIOD MARCH 20 TO APRIL 20 BECAUSE OF SPAWNING ACTIVITIES. FRG DELEGATION INFORMED THAT ICLENADERS WOULD NOT OPEN DISCUSSIONS UNTIL ALL TRAWLERS HAD LEFT CONTROLLED AREA. FRG REPRESENTATIVES PROTESTED THAT TRAWLER ACTIVITIES HAD TAKEN PLACE WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF GERMAN AUTHORITIES OR TRAWLER OWNERS. AT 1400 HOURS GOI COAST GUARD REPORTED THAT TRAWLERS WERE DEPARTING. DISCUSSIONS WERE FINALLY OPENED AT 1630.

3. MFA DEPSEC GEN INGVI INGVARSSON INFORMED EMBOFF THAT NO NEW OFFERS HAD BEEN SUBMITTED DURING APRIL 3 TALKS. GOI PROPOSED TO GERMANS A FISHING AGREEMENT SIMILAR TO THAT CONCLUDED EARLIER WITH BELGIUM. FRG REPS REJECTED THIS SUGGESTION. DISCUSSIONS CENTERED ON ICELANDIC SCHEME OF SERIES OF ZONES SURROUNDING ICELAND WHERE FISHING WOULD BE OPEN DURING CERTAIN MONTHS OF THE YEAR. INGVARSSON SAID GOI DELEGATION HAD INDICATED TO GERMANS THAT THEY MIGHT FIND AN AGREEMENT EASIER TO REACH THAN THE BRITISH SINCE THEIR INTERESTS DIFFER. (FRG TRAWLERS ARE LARGER, FISH AT GREATER DISTANCES FROM COAST AND DO NOT PURSUE THE COD TO THE EXTENT THAT THE BRITISH TRAWLERS DO.) INGVARSSON SAID THAT THE GERMANS APPEARED CAUTIOUS AND OBVIOUSLY DID NOT WISH TO GET OUT OF STEP WITH THE BRITISH.

4. INGVARSSON CHARACTERIZED DISCUSSIONS TO DATE AS "MORE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS" THAN A SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATION. TODAY'S TALKS WILL TAKE PLACE THIS AFTERNOON AND INGVARSSON DID NOT THINK THAT THE GERMANS WILL STAY MUCH LONGER. HE SAID THAT GOI HAD RECEIVED IMPRESSION THAT GERMAN DELEGATION INSTRUCTIONS WERE LIMITED TO TAKING A SOUNDING OF ICELAND'S VIEWS AND CONVEYING THIS TO BONN. IRVING

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